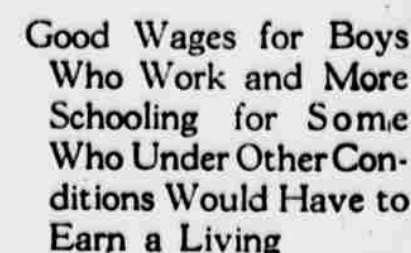


**Of Course It's the War  
That Has Caused the  
Scarcity and Enables  
the Ambitious Lad to  
Choose His Own Job  
Nowadays**

Some one said the other day that the office boy was about to take his



The school registration figures compiled September 27 throw a dim ray of light on the situation. They show that the high schools, which take the most of the boys old enough to enter into the job problem, enrolled 2,860 more pupils this year than last. In spite of the infantile paralysis scare, which caused a decrease of 5,606 in the registration in the elementary schools. But whether the increase in boys or girls, the department is unable to say offhand. The demand for working papers seems to be about the same, so no help comes from that source.

for messenger work, errands and odd jobs. I can't give specific examples, but suppose a firm used to have one

He is sitting a new gray hair each day trying to scratch up boys. They are so hard to get that the company has been obliged to curtail its messenger service in order to handle the Western Union telegrams, which naturally cannot be neglected. Mr. Turner isn't telling for publication how many more boys he could use, but he makes it plain that it is a good, round number.

"For fifteen years I've been making a specialty of boys," he said, "and in all that time, fat years and lean, I

"What's the matter?"  
 "Nothin'. I got a better job."  
 "How?"  
 "Well, I took a message over there to the Hudson Terminal Buildin', and one of these railroad supply fellows says to me, 'Don't you want a job, son?' An' he tells me what he'll pay, an' its easy work, an' I'm goin' to quit an' take it."  
 "Before the day's over that little scene will be repeated many times, and by the end of the week I am 'way short again. I'm supplying boys to the whole of New York. That's one

"I see many evidences of it. When times are a little hard I frequently have to get after the boys for wearing bad shoes or going without overcoats. 'Now, look here, Frank,' I begin, 'you have a fairly good run. You are making \$10 a week. What's the reason you don't get a pair of shoes? You get your feet wet every day in those things you're wearing, and first thing you know you'll be sick and lose a week's work.'

pick of the boys have been hard pressed. I see their advertisements week after week, and I've watched their offers go up from \$5 a week in some cases to \$9. And still the advertisements are in the papers. If those people can't get boys, what chance has the little fellow?

"The drop in immigration may have something to do with it, indirectly. Of course, the boy just over who can't speak English is no good to us or to most firms. But he can do certain rough jobs and thus fill vacancies that

"They might do worse than be messengers for a while, the superintendent believes. In the first place, practically all the clerks and operators are recruited from the ranks of the messengers. And from among the operators are recruited the managers, and from the branch managers, the chief operators, the department managers, and

of light on the situation. They show that the high schools, which take the most of the boys old enough to enter into the job problem, enrolled 2,866 more pupils this year than last. This, in spite of the infantile paralysis scare, which caused a decrease of 5,606 in the registration in the elementary schools. But whether the increase is in boys or girls, the department is unable to say offhand. The demand for working papers seems to be about the same, so no help comes from that source.

By LIND C. DOYLE, JR.



6600. The room a dozen young fellows of ages between 14 and 25, all obviously slicked up for the occasion, sat densely around the walls, fidgeting with their bats. In another room a number of the same. They all were

"We do not urge boys or young men to take jobs in these plants, but nothing else offers we send them along. And, of course, many of them prefer high temporary pay to low wages and better chances for a career, such as some of the fine Ne-

"As for Huger-ee," goes on Wilson, "I don't know whether he's a good man or a bad one, but I think he's a good man."

"'I dinnau,' says the uplifter, 'B'Brine made a heap iv dough whin he done his turns bechune the Neapolitans. Teabubadours an' Seers the Taffy Man-

"Well, sorr, that play was a wonder for wakin' great emoshuns." Ivry sober deservin' dimmycrat held his breath. Ivry five minutes they'd carried out a vital stiff, gobblin' like a school-

"Enter Uncle Sammel, readin' the appropri-a-shuns iv the last Congress. He registers anger. The American dillygates registers benevolence, touches him on the pocket, an' ninn-

